



Motor Vehicle Crash Death Rates, Age-Adjusted Clark County and Washington State, 1994 through 2001

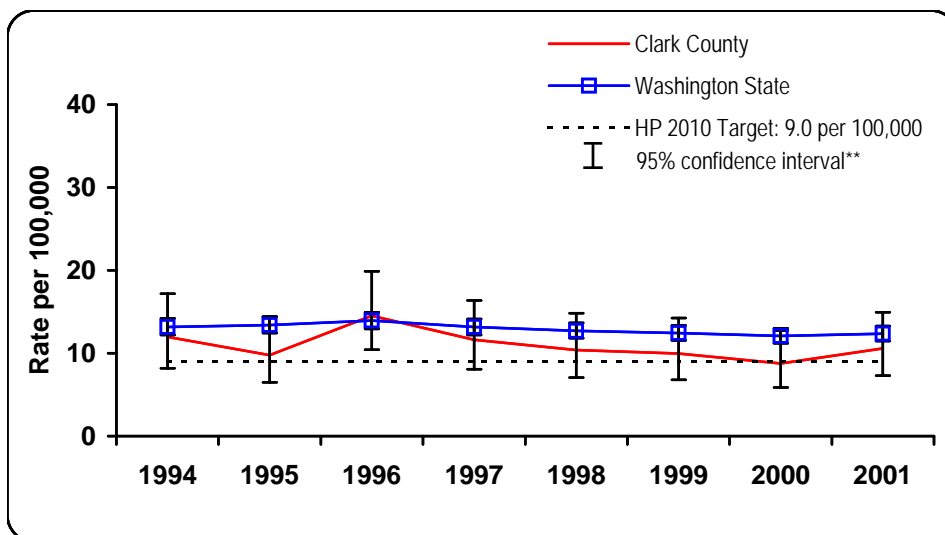
Why we should care? The rates are highest for males 15 to 24 years of age and 75 and older. The risk of a motor vehicle fatality is greatly reduced by using occupant protection and not drinking and driving. (1)

Status?

- Clark County has been below the Washington State average except for a slight rise in 1996.
- Clark County fell below the Healthy People 2010 Target in 2000 and almost reached this in 1995.

What we can do?

- **Reducing alcohol-impaired driving** is one of the key priorities in highway safety. Efforts to reduce alcohol-impaired driving include increasing the conviction rate for driving under the influence (DUI) and providing continued public education regarding drinking and driving. (1)
- **Curfews and graduated licensing systems** have been shown to be effective interventions to reduce injuries and death among young drivers. (1)
- A **"primary enforcement" seat belt law** was enacted by the legislature in 2002 which will likely increase use of occupant protection. (1)



Year	Clark County			Washington State		
	Rate*	95% CI**	Number	Rate*	95% CI**	Number
1994	12.0	(8.2, 17.2)	32	13.2	(12.2, 14.2)	695
1995	9.8	(6.5, 14.4)	29	13.4	(12.4, 14.4)	724
1996	14.5	(10.4, 19.9)	42	13.9	(13.0, 15.0)	770
1997	11.6	(8.1, 16.4)	35	13.2	(12.2, 14.2)	736
1998	10.4	(7.1, 14.8)	32	12.7	(11.8, 13.7)	725
1999	10.0	(6.8, 14.3)	32	12.4	(11.5, 13.4)	718
2000	8.8	(5.9, 12.8)	29	12.1	(11.2, 13.0)	708
2001	10.6	(7.3, 14.9)	34	12.4	(11.5, 13.3)	735

Please see back side for technical notes and sources



Technical Notes: The age-adjusted death rate is defined as the number of deaths per 100,000 standard population after removing the effects of age on mortality.

*Rate per 100,000 population adjusted using the 2000 U.S. Standard Population; deaths coded using ICD 10.

** If the confidence intervals for state and county overlap in a given year, there is no significant difference between these rates.

Sources: (1) State Death Data: DOH Centers for Health Statistics, Death Record System. (2) Vital Registration System, Annual Statistics Files, Deaths 1994-2001. [Data file]. Olympia, WA: Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics. (3) Public Health: Seattle & King County, Epidemiology, Planning, & Evaluation. (1991-2003). VistaPHw (version 3.1.1) [Computer Software for public health assessment]. Seattle, WA.